

CHAPTER II.

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When the Army of Northern Virginia left Fredericksburg in June, 1863, on its invasion of Pennsylvania, Ewell's Corps, to which Colonel Andrews' battery belonged, moved by way of Front Royal to Winchester, at which place the battalion was assigned to General Edward Johnson's Division.

General Early had diverged from Ewell on the march, and his column struck the Valley turnpike near Newtown on the morning of the 13th of June, where, uniting with the Second Maryland Infantry and Baltimore Light Artillery, he advanced upon Winchester, skirmishers from the Second Maryland Infantry leading the way. These encountered the enemy at Kernstown, and soon after General Gordon charged on the left and drove Milroy's troops into their fortifications, the main one of which General Harry Hays, with his Louisiana Brigade, assaulted and carried the next evening in a most gallant manner. All day of the 14th the Maryland skirmishers kept pegging away so as to distract the enemy's attention from the real point of attack, and Hays' assault was a genuine surprise.

On the evening of the 14th General Ewell, believing that Milroy would steal away during the night, ordered General Johnson to take the Stonewall, Nicholls' and three regiments of Stuart's Brigades, and W. F. Dement's battery, with sections of Charles I. Raine's and J. C. Carpenter's (the whole under Lieutenant-Colonel Andrews) to proceed to a point on the Martinsburg pike about two and a half miles from Winchester.

General Ewell had calculated well, for during the night Milroy did evacuate the place and was intercepted by that portion of Johnson's Division sent for the purpose.

General Johnson marched by the way of Jordan's Springs to Stephenson's Depot. Just as the head of the column reached the railroad, two hundred yards from the Martinsburg road the enemy were heard retreating down the road towards Martinsburg.

General Johnson immediately formed his line parallel with the pike behind a stone wall, Stuart on the right and the Louisianians on the left, altogether twelve hundred men. Milroy attacked at once with his cavalry and infantry (he had left his artillery at Winchester), and made repeated efforts to cut his way through, but was as often repulsed with heavy loss. Milroy then attempted to turn both flanks simultaneously, but was met on the right by General Walker, who had just arrived, having lost his way, and by two regiments of Nicholls' Brigade, which had been held in reserve, when in a few minutes the greater part surrendered — two thousand three hundred in number.